

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY STRIPES

July 31, 2008

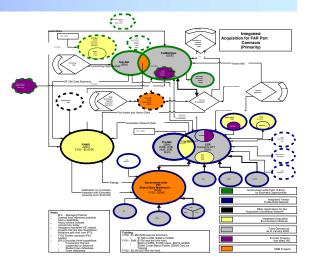
The STRIPES Communiqué is one of the many ways you will receive information and progress updates about the STRIPES Project. If you did not receive this communiqué via e-mail and would like to be added to the STRIPES mailing list, send an e-mail to STRIPES@hq.doe.gov with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

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STRIPES System Very Stable

Does 99.44% ring a bell? In addition to Ivory soap's famous jingle, that number also represents the amount of "up time" the STRIPES system has had during normal business operating hours. The STRIPES operational hours are 8am - 8pm ET, Monday through Friday. No small feat for a complex system with more than 1,000 users. System "up time" and "down time" are key metrics that monitor the overall stability and availability of a system. While we are pleased with the STRIPES stability, users may still face occasional challenges based on integration dependencies with other systems. The complex diagram to the right illustrates DOE's integration with other Federal and DOE systems. Stay tuned to hear how systems are working together to minimize integration related "down time".



STRIPES Deployment Revised Schedule Update

During these summer months, the STRIPES project team has been working with Procurement Directors to finalize the FY '09 deployment schedule. Many, many factors are under consideration for an optimal rollout for the Department, your site and STRIPES project team. Once the new deployment schedule is complete (within the next 2 weeks), your SPOC will be notified and will help spread the word about the much anticipated schedule. The STRIPES deployment will consist of 4-5 waves of deployment between the second and third fiscal quarters.

Policy Corner: What's In? What's Out?

The Office of Procurement and Assistance Policy has been actively engaged in issuing the STRIPES Acquisition Letter/Financial Assistance Letter (AL/FAL) combined guidance. Needless to say, this policy has created quite a buzz, and therefore is not ready for prime time yet. It has been decided that the AL/FAL will not go into extensive detail as previously planned, however, the implementing guidance will be found in corresponding guides and manuals. So as we await its release, we are providing clarification on the following: 1) what actions must be performed in STRIPES and, 2) what can be, or must be, done outside of STRIPES.

Therefore, in order to enhance your transition to STRIPES, the following types of actions under "What's In" are expected to be conducted using STRIPES once your site has been implemented. Specifically excluded actions are identified also under "What's Out". The list of actions is categorized below:

1) **What's In?**

- All new financial assistance awards including grants, cooperative agreements, technology investment agreement (TIA's), loans, and loan guarantees
- All new acquisition awards over the micropurchase threshold, including funds out interagency agreements (i.e., DOE is the requesting agency), international agreements and Management and Operating / Facility Management Contractors (M&O/FMC) contracts
- All new micropurchases using the purchase card for which the funding is committed and obligated on a transaction-by-transaction basis
- Requisitions, solicitations, evaluations, award, and administration activities for any of the above action, including a STRIPES Advance Procurement Plans for actions requiring a formal acquisition plan
- Reconstructed existing instruments selected at the time of implementation of STRIPES at the site

2) What's Out?

a. Must not be done in STRIPES: (per regulation violation or system impact)

- Classified instruments of any kind, i.e., the instrument itself is classified, not that the contractor may have access to classified information
- All funds-in Interagency Agreements
- All micropurchases using the purchase card for which the obligation is recorded in STARS and this amount is drawn down upon (i.e., "bulk funded" purchase cards)
- Third party drafts or convenience checks

b. Need not be done in STRIPES: (not required)

- Expired instruments for which the only remaining funding action is the final deobligation of funds which may be accomplished using the Exhibit 16
- Sales agreement such as the Spent Nuclear Fuel Contracts
- Other Non-FAR based contracts not identified above

Note: STRIPES users may want to print this list and keep it handy. Future updates will be documented in corresponding guides and manuals as indicated earlier.

STRIPES Project Information

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